



KALAMAZOO
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

link



who's reading ebooks?

Publishers interviewed by Library Journal say that "older readers, often the most voracious, have led the way," reading for pleasure, especially with romances, mystery, and other genre fiction.

Even confirmed bibliophiles have discovered the benefits of ebooks. Chief among those benefits? All your books are always available, if you carry your ereader. Multi-tasking readers – those who read two or more books at once – enjoy the ease of opening another book when the mood strikes. Plus, you can borrow something new from the library at all hours!

Did you just get an ereader? Or are you thinking of using that gift certificate you just received to buy one? Wonder how they work with library books? Find out at the following events.

Get hands-on experience with a variety of ereading devices, including iPad, Nook, and Kindle, at the **Ereader Intro**, January 5, 6:30 pm, at the Central Library. Find out which devices can access the library's digital titles. Learn how to search for, check out, and download ebooks from KPL at the **Ebook How To**, January 10, 6 pm, Oshtemo Branch.

Can't wait for these events? Stop by the ereader services desk at Central Library to pick up the ereader comparison charts, glossary, and specific instructions for Nook, Kindle, or iPad, iPhone, iPod. Use the QR code to see when staff will be at the desk, or go to www.kpl.gov/ebooks.



bookfair march 2-4

Save these dates! Shop at Barnes & Noble during this B&N Bookfair to support Reading Together. A percentage of all net sales at any B&N store or online, when linked to the ID 10656213, will be donated for future Reading Together author visits.

To shop online, go to bn.com/bookfairs and click "Start Shopping Now." Tell your friends to buy books, movies and music at Barnes & Noble on March 2-4!

teen film fest

February 26, 2:30 pm
Rave Motion Pictures, 180 Portage St.

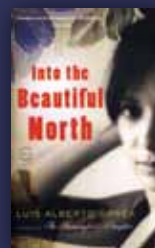
Help roll out the (metaphorical) red carpet at the Rave for the best and biggest teen filmmaker festival in Michigan.

Juried film finalists will be screened at this special FREE event open to movie fans of all ages. Enjoy movie snacks and cast your vote for the People's Choice award!

appreciating urrea

February 29, 7 pm, Central

Reading Together selected Luis Alberto Urrea's *Into the Beautiful North* for 2012, a novel with both tragic and comic elements, built on Mexico's loss of men to the north – to jobs in the U.S.



Karen Vocke, Western Michigan University English instructor and migrant educator from northern Michigan to South Texas, brings parts of Urrea's narrative to life as she weaves literary elements of the story with realities of immigrant life and the individual's need to belong.

Discuss the book and attend many special events in March and April, including discussions of Latino literature and culture on March 1, and Art Hop on March 2. Find the entire schedule and much more information on the website.

meet urrea

March 6, 7 pm
KCHS Auditorium
www.readingtogether.us



contents

books & more	2-3
annual report	4
tween/teen	5
kids	6-7
director's note	8

january & february events

books & more

discussions

Classics Revisited

January 19, 7 pm, CEN

February 16, 7 pm, CEN

Join lovers of classic literature to discuss Stuart Dybek's *The Coast of Chicago* in January and John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* in February. www.classicbookgroup.blogspot.com

Urban Fiction

January 24, 6-7 pm, POW

Introducing a new street lit book group! Bestselling authors Ashley & JaQuavis introduce readers to London, a beautiful immigrant from Trinidad, in *The Trophy Wife*, a story of love, lies, adultery, and death that keeps you guessing until the final page. Refreshments. Pick up the book at Powell.

authors



D.E. Johnson

February 7, 6:30 pm, WSQ

History buff Dan Johnson has been writing fiction since childhood. His first novel, a historical mystery

entitled *The Detroit Electric Scheme*, was named one of Booklist's Top Ten First Crime Novels of the year and won a 2011 Michigan Notable Book Award.

Alice Renee Beard

February 22, 7 pm, CEN



The first title in an intended series called *Walker's Web*, Beard's forthcoming novel, *Recollections of a Fugitive*, stems from the brutal life of a slave in the 1800s, telling the story of an emotionally

damaged spirit that somehow manages to escape. Several performers, including Beard, will offer a dramatic reading from *Walker's Web*.

history & genealogy

R Genealogy Lock-In

January 20, 6-10 pm, CEN

After-hours event for genealogists.

Take advantage of free copying, printing, and parking in the library lot. Registration required; call 553-7808 beginning January 3.

Crispus Attucks in American History and Memory

February 14, 6 pm, OSH

Western Michigan University history professor Mitch Kachun presents his research on Attucks, the first American killed in the 1770 Boston Massacre. Kachun will explore the process through which Attucks, of African and Native American ancestry, achieved a place among our national heroes.

R Intro to Genealogy

February 28, 6 pm, POW

Learn how to start compiling your family tree through online products like Ancestry.com, Heritage Quest, KPL's own index to local newspapers, plus important print sources, major genealogical collections, and more. Registration required; call 553-7808 or register online starting February 6.

R Registration required. Call location listed or register online starting 30 days before event.

& more

Couponing Class

January 11, 7 pm, CEN

Coupon like the pros – learn about types of coupons, where to find them, and how to organize them. Maximize your savings by combining in-store coupons, manufacturer's coupons, and store rewards. Increase your family's buying power!

® Ask a Lawyer

January 12, 6-8 pm, CEN

January 13, February 10,

11:30 am-1 pm, CEN

February 7, 6-8 pm, POW

Free legal clinic with Bar Association lawyers. Call 553-7920 for a 20-minute appointment.

Free Tax Prep

February 4, 10 am-2:30 pm, CEN

February 18, 10:30 am-3 pm, OSH

February 25, 10 am-2:30 pm, CEN

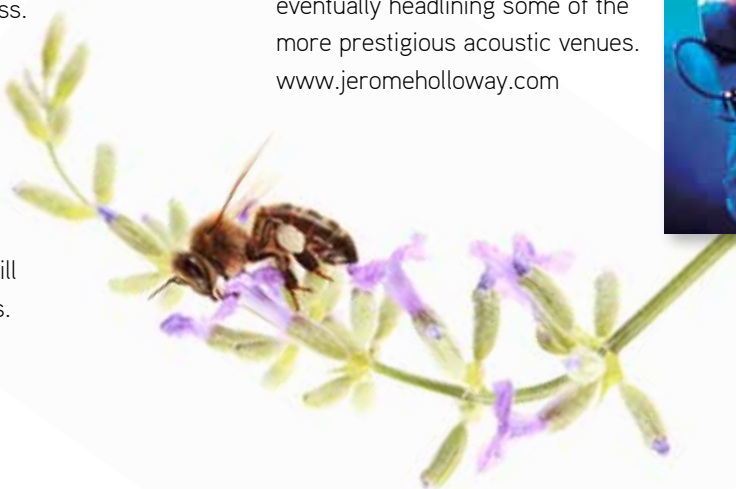
February 28, 3-7 pm, EAST

Free tax prep for those with a household income under \$49,000 in 2011, prepared by IRS-certified VITA tax volunteers. Appointment required. Call 211 for scheduling and tax site information.

Intro to Beekeeping

February 8, 7 pm, CEN

Beekeeping expert and author Larry Connor Ph.D. has written three books on beekeeping, and published more than a dozen bee titles by other authors through his company, Wicwas Press. He regularly contributes articles to the *American Bee Journal* and *Bee Culture Magazine*, teaches classes, and speaks at conferences about beekeeping. Dr. Connor will discuss beekeeping basics. www.wicwas.com



music

GLAMA Slow Jam

January 4, February 1, 7 pm, CEN

Does your guitar, fiddle, or mandolin never leave home? Want to make music with others but think you can't keep up? If you can play basic chords, like G, C, D, or A, then you can join the Great Lakes Acoustic Music Association for an acoustic slow jam.

The Mickeys

January 18, 7 pm, CEN

Identical twins Amy Sherman and Julie Peebles front the Mickeys. This striking duo blends Americana, country, Celtic, folk, and spirituals to create a unique acoustic sound with unbeatable, harmonized vocals of bell-like quality. Among their musical accomplishments are two CDs, two European tours, and top-twenty spots on several of charts. www.themickeys.net

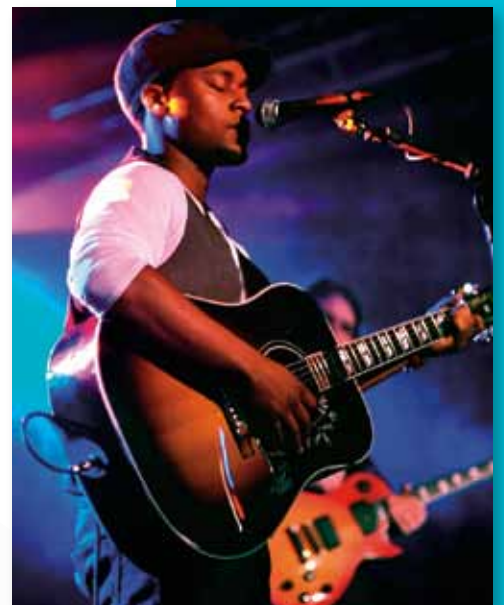


WKAR BackStage Pass

Jerome Holloway

February 15, 7 pm, CEN

Jerome Holloway grew up the quiet child in a lively Kalamazoo family. Journaling and song writing became outlets for recording his thoughts and emotions. He moved to Chicago after college, where he started performing at open mics in 2006, eventually headlining some of the more prestigious acoustic venues. www.jeromeholloway.com



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annual report

2010-2011 at a glance

District Population
124,169

New Registrations
8,269

Materials Circulated
1,327,023

Circulation Per Capita
10.7

Questions Answered
279,322

Programs Offered
1,092

Program Attendance
35,092

Dear Friends,

Throughout this past year, KPL continued to focus staff efforts and resources on the goals outlined in the strategic plan we developed with community input in 2010. I'm very proud to tell you that we've both broadened and strengthened these services, despite fiscal challenges. Let me share a few highlights.

Creating young readers remains our highest priority. This fall we hosted all KPS first grade students, a project KPL and KPS worked on to increase childhood literacy. These visits are already yielding stronger ties between libraries and families. We engaged several new preschool literacy partnerships this year.

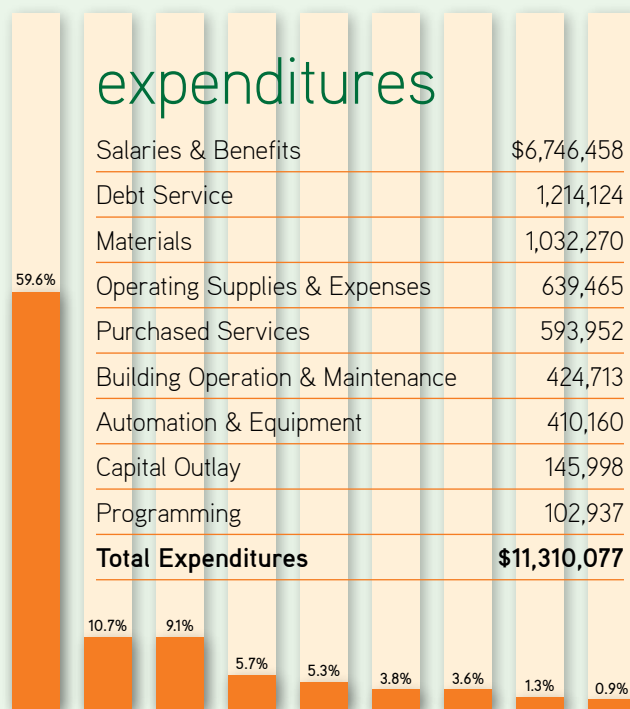
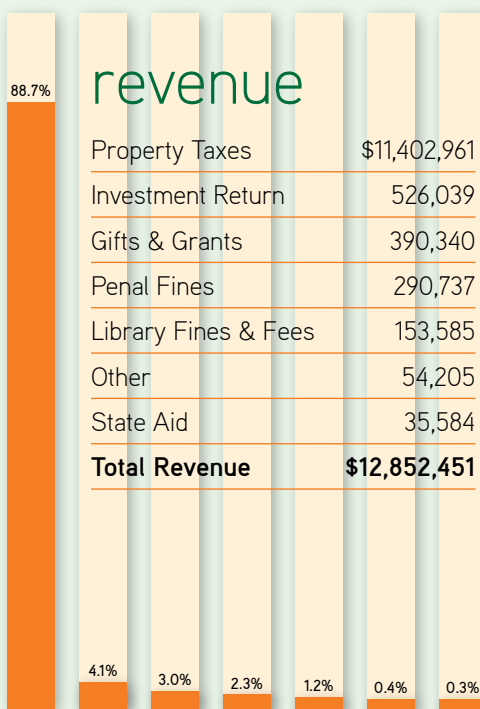
To stimulate imagination, KPL provided pleasurable reading, viewing, and listening experiences for all ages. We've increased spending on popular books (including ebooks), movies, and music. Circulation jumped almost 68% in just five years – from 790,697 to 1,327,023.

After a year of intensive planning, ONEplace, KPL's nonprofit management support center, will launch a leadership academy in January. We're very excited about this initiative.

The Local History Room successfully helps patrons discover their roots every day. The "All About Kalamazoo" section of KPL's website won a 2011 State History Award.

We've achieved these objectives despite ongoing revenue loss and a 10% reduction in staff through greater backroom efficiencies and developing staff skills, using programs like LEAN and Strengths Finder. As we look ahead to the next year, we see continued funding challenges – decline in local tax revenues and the possible elimination of personal property tax at the state level – but we will continue to provide you great library service by working our strategic plan.

Ann Rohibaugh





tween/teen

® Create with Duct Tape

January 18, 4-5 pm, EAS

January 26, 4-5 pm, WSQ

Create bookmarks, magnets and journals with super useful Duct Tape! We supply materials, you supply creativity. Gr 5-12. Registration required; call 553-7807.

Just Dance!

January 21, 1-3 pm, OSH

Join the dancing movement! Bust a move at KPL with *Just Dance*, the perfect game for dancers of all levels, all ages.

J-Pop Club

January 23, February 27, 3:30-5 pm, CEN

Enjoy Japanese Anime, manga, Pocky, and food. Drop in any time during event! Gr 7-12.

® Star Books with KBAC

February 11, 1-3 pm, OSH

Create star-shaped pop-up books that feature three-dimensional dioramas with Katie Platte, Kalamazoo Book Arts Center instructor. Registration required; call 553-7807.

Pizza and Pages

February 14, 6-7 pm, POW

Grab a copy of *Wildflower* by Anne Schraff at the Powell checkout desk. Take it home, read it, then join us to talk about it and other great books you've read! Gr 7-12.

® Art Attack: Beading

February 15, 4-5 pm, EAS

February 23, 4-5 pm, WSQ

Learn beading techniques from Bead Shop owner Cindy Spiess-Malmstrom. All supplies provided. Leave with a beaded creation! Gr 5-12. Registration required; call 553-7807.

Movie and Popcorn!

January 3, 5:30 pm, POW

Take a break from Winter Break with the sci-fi action flick *Thor*. PG-13.

Teen Advisory Board (T.A.B.)

January 4, February 1, 3:30-5 pm, CEN

Plan programs and service projects, discuss books, movies, music, and web sites, eat snacks, play games, and have fun! Gr 7-12.

KPL Racing League

January 10, 3:30-5 pm, CEN

Put the pedal to the metal with an all-racing game afternoon! Compete in *Mario Kart*, *Blur*, *Split/Second*, and more! Gr 7-12.

Gamers Arena

January 10, 6-7:30 pm, POW

January 21, 2-4 pm, CEN

Play our board, card, role-playing or video games, or bring your own. Strategy, skill, snacks, and fun @ KPL. Gr 5-12.

Teen Filmmaker Festival

Sunday, February 26,
2:30 pm

Rave Cityplace 14 Theater

Films Due January 21, 5 pm

Calling all teen filmmakers! Enter your films in the biggest and best film festival for teens in Michigan. A jury will review every film entered and select festival finalists. Filmmakers will be notified if their film has been selected by email. Finalists' films will be screened at the Rave! Public Media Network will cover the festival and broadcast festival finalists, awards presentations, and winner interviews.

Entry forms, tips, info at
www.kpl.gov/teenfilmfest.

Like us!
www.facebook/teenfilmfest

Sponsors



kids



La'Ron Williams

February 21, 6:30 pm, POW

Nationally acclaimed, award winning storyteller La'Ron Williams presents a dynamic blend of original and traditional tales spiced with music and audience participation, crafted to deepen understanding of American history, ideals, and democracy. La'Ron infuses his stories with messages that build self-esteem, foster cooperation, and encourage a love of reading.

Toddler Talk

Wednesdays, 10 am-12 pm, OSH

January 4, 11, 18, 25

February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Toddlers play while adults share joys/challenges of the 1-3 year old. Connie Koning, RN, facilitator.

Baby Talk

Wednesdays, 1:30-3:30 pm, OSH

January 4, 11, 18, 25

February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Talk about care of babies up to 1 year with other parents/caregivers. Connie Koning, RN, facilitator.

🐾 Reading with Bailey

January 4, 11, 18, 25, 3:30-5:30 pm, EAS

Enjoy a "pawsitive" experience reading to Bailey the loveable Schnoodle (a Schnauzer/Poodle mix). Registration required. To register, call 553-7811.

Games @ Powell

January 5, 3-4:30 pm, POW

Join the fun with video and board games during the winter break. Ages 5-11.

🏆 Sport Cup Stacking

January 5, 2 pm, WSQ

Awesome! Unbelievable! "Mr. Jim" Merrills show kids how to up and down stack cup pyramids at amazing speeds. All ages.

Movie and Popcorn

January 6, 2 pm, CEN

African Cats

February 24, 2 pm, CEN

Crimson Wing: Mystery of the Flamingos

- 📍 Registration required. Call location listed or register online starting 30 days before event.
- 🎫 Space limited; ticket required. Pick up FREE ticket one hour before event; one ticket per person.

LEGO at the Library

January 7, 10:30-11:30 am, OSH

January 21, 10:30-11:30 am, CEN

February 4, 10:30-11:30 am, OSH

February 18, 10:30-11:30 am, CEN

Build, create, race, inspire, and imagine with other Lego fans. All bricks provided, from Duplo to Expert Builder. All ages.

Singalong Storytime

January 25, 6:30 pm, CEN

Favorite singalong songs, puppets, and fun for the whole family.

From the Heart

February 1-9, open hours, all locations

Spread a little joy. Help us make Valentines for residents of local nursing homes.

Africa! Animals!

February 7, 6:30-7:30 pm, EAS

Don't be a stodgy old 'faru! Leap like a 'chui' for stories, activities, and crafts. Faru (rhino) and chui (leopard) are Swahili. Ages 5-11.

🦁 Chinese Lion Dancers

February 11, 1 pm, CEN

Celebrate the Year of the Dragon with a three-part performance. See a 30 foot dragon weave a sinuous Dragon Dance. Hear "The Golden Reed Pipe," a folktale about a brave boy who saves his sister from a dragon. In the final act, five colorful lions perform a silly Lion Dance. Fun for the whole family.

Jumping the Broom

February 21, 6:30 pm, EAS

Learn about the African American wedding custom of jumping the broom through slides and video. Enjoy wedding cake and a craft. Registration required. Ages 9 and up.

storytimes

Librarians consider developmental stages when planning stories, songs, fingerplays, and crafts. Babies and toddlers must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. Siblings may attend any storytime as guests.

Family Storytime

Stories, songs, fingerplays, and fun activities designed for children from birth to age 5. Librarians select the best books for the group that attends.

Mondays, 10 am, CEN

January 9, 16, 23, 30

February 6, 13, 20, 27

Tuesdays, 2 pm, WSQ

January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

February 7, 14, 21, 28

Wednesdays, 10:30 am, POW

January 4, 11, 18, 25

February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Thursdays, 10:30 am, EAS

January 5, 12, 19, 26

February 2, 9, 16, 23

Thursdays, 10:30 am, OSH

January 5, 12, 19, 26

February 2, 9, 16, 23

Preschool Storytime

Stories, crafts, fingerplays, and other fun activities for the 3½-5 year old.

Tuesdays, 10 am, CEN

January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Baby Lapsit

Storytime for babies from birth through walking features rhymes, songs, and books!

Tuesdays, 9:30 am, CEN

February 7, 14, 21, 28

Baby Steps

Walking babies up to two years old try the learned skills of walking, clapping, jumping, and dancing.

Tuesdays, 10:30 am, CEN

February 7, 14, 21, 28

global reading challenge

KPL's Global Reading Challenge promotes the joy of reading books that celebrate the world's diverse community among 4th and 5th grade classes in the library district.

History

Powell Branch Library hosted KPL's first reading competition in 1994. Since then, thousands of students on elementary school teams have read books and answered questions about characters, plots, and settings in a quiz-bowl setting.

How It Works

KPL children's librarians select ten books each year, especially suited to the reading interests and abilities of young readers. In March, librarians conduct challenges in each participating school. Winning school teams then battle at individual branches in April. Five branch victors compete in the final District Challenge on April 23.

Books Selected

Sue Warner, head of KPL's Youth Services, announced the 2012 Global Reading Challenge titles in early December.



Global Reading Challenge Titles

How Tia Lola Learned to Teach | Julia Alvarez

The Wright 3 | Blue Balliett

Extra Credit | Andrew Clements

Granny Torrelli Makes Soup | Sharon Creech

The Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963 | Christopher Paul Curtis

Brendan Buckley's Universe and Everything in It | Sundee Frazier

Nim's Island | Wendy Orr

Thumb on a Diamond | Ken Roberts

Summer Reading Is Killing Me! | Jon Scieszka

Bobby Versus Girls (Accidentally) | Lisa Yee

*****ECRWSS*****
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

director's
note

my 2011 favorites

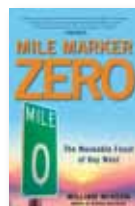
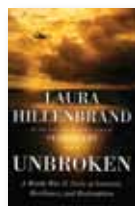
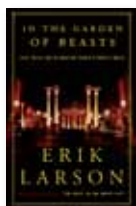


It's the time of year for "best of" lists. Most every publication creates a list to entice their niche markets – books, music, and movies – top the lists. Not surprisingly,

I love the best books lists!

Like many avid readers and librarians, I record all the books I've read; I started my reading journal about 25 years ago. At year end, when we ask staff for their favorites, I retrieve my list, reread my short annotations, and begin deliberating to determine my favorites – no easy task!

If I narrow my list to books published within the last year or so to follow the format of other lists, *State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett ranks at the top, closely followed by *Once Upon a River* by local author Bonnie Jo Campbell, and *Red Garden* by Alice Hoffman. My nonfiction favorites include Erik Larson's



In the Garden of Beasts, *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand, and *Mile Marker Zero* by William McKeen. To see more staff favorites lists, go to www.kpl.gov/books/best-of-2011 or use the QR code below.

Sharing our favorites with you is one way we support our priority of "reading, viewing, and listening for pleasure". We've added some new services for readers this year too: Now Read This for reading suggestions from our staff and BookMyne, a smartphone app from Sirsi, the company that provides our collection database. See www.kpl.gov/books/bookmyne.

BookMyne recently issued version 3, upgrading its "Bookshelf" interface, making it easier to manage your library account, keep track of your reading, search the KPL collection, and get recommendations from a variety of sources, including the very popular social website, Goodreads.

All my best wishes for the New Year – may you have good times, good health, good friends, and of course, good books to enjoy!

Ann Rohbaugh



Central Library – CEN

315 S Rose St, 49007
553-7800

**Friends of the
Library Bookstore**

315 S Rose St, 49007
553-7820

Eastwood – EAS

1112 Gayle Ave, 49048
553-7810

Oshtemo – OSH

7265 W Main St, 49009
553-7980

Alma Powell – POW

1000 W Paterson St, 49007
553-7960

Washington Square – WSQ

1244 Portage St, 49001
553-7970

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